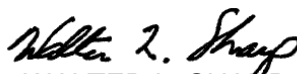




30 June 2010

## **PATRIOT EXPRESS Returns to Korea**

1. The *Patriot Express* (PE) has returned to Korea, providing two flights per week to and from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport for our PCSing service members and their families. These are USTRANSCOM-contracted commercial international charter flights which offer an array of in-flight amenities and operate the same as scheduled commercial airlines. The PE is also an excellent provider of troop morale by providing "Space A" Travel opportunities to and from Japan and the United States. The flights depart from Osan every Tuesday and Thursday. Each will make one stop in Japan to pick up additional passengers before continuing on to Seattle.
2. Although there are many benefits of PE, we understand there are a few challenges that must be worked through during the first couple of months as we re-implement this program. One of these challenges is the shipment of pets. Currently, animals can only be processed at Republic of Korea (ROK) International Airports, but we are working with our ROK government counterparts to ensure pets can travel on the PE in the future. This will reduce the cost of traveling with your pet; however, until an agreement is reached, families with pets will continue to use commercial travel methods.
3. The PE will also help alleviate stress for our inbound and outbound families. When flying on the PE to Korea, you have the peace of mind knowing you will be greeted by US personnel to assist in your arrival at Osan, with customs and immigration processing, and with onward movement to your final destination. I am confident the PE will prove to be a successful endeavor in support of our service members and their families.
4. I am excited about the return of the PE, the advantages it offers, and I hope you will make the most of the opportunities it provides. With our normalization and an increase in command-sponsored families to Korea, the PE will offer low-cost travel opportunities for you to Japan and Seattle. The PE is part of our continued commitment to make this the "Station of Choice".
5. My staff, in coordination with USTRANSCOM, will monitor and provide PE improvements along the way. For more information on the PE, you can check out the Patriot Express link on the USFK website. Finally, your feedback is important and we welcome your comments on your PE experience. Please take a few moments fill out the customer satisfaction survey at [www.usfk.mil](http://www.usfk.mil) on the PE link.
6. We Go Together!

  
WALTER L. SHARP  
General, US Army  
Commander

**FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!**

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